



Feral pig

## DESCRIPTION

Feral pigs are pigs that are free ranging, and are not in a farmed situation. Feral pigs are omnivorous, and are opportunistic feeders. They can prosper in a wide range of habitats but they prefer forested areas, native bush and reverting farmland. Control of feral pigs is voluntary but the Regional Council promotes a public understanding of the 'pest' characteristics of this animal.

## VALUES AT RISK

### *Farm production.*

Feral pigs have a habit of using their snouts to root for food and can severely damage pasture. They can kill newborn lambs and sick sheep.

### *Ecological values.*

Feral pigs can have a significant effect on the indigenous biodiversity of an area. They will eat the tops of indigenous flora resulting in the decline of some species. They may have a similar effect on rare native fauna. For example, by feeding on the remnant populations of indigenous land snails.

## STRATEGY RULES

*There is no rule requiring you to control feral pigs. Any control is voluntary.*

## HOW TO CONTROL FERAL PIGS

**Shooting**, particularly in association with dogs – using .30/30 or similar calibre firearms.